BILL TEXT:

STATE OF NEW YORK

7281--A

IN SENATE

May 11, 2004

Introduced by Sen. VOLKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, the tax law and the local finance law, in relation to revenues of the Buffalo fiscal stability authority

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

- Section 1. Subdivision 21 of section 3851 of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 122 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:
- 21. "Revenues" means revenues of the authority consisting of city tax revenues, school district tax revenues, state aid revenues, and all other aid, rents, fees, charges, gifts, payments and other income and receipts paid or payable to the authority or a trustee for the account of the authority, to the extent such amounts are pledged to bondholders.
- 9 § 2. Section 3851 of the public authorities law is amended by adding 10 three new subdivisions 26, 27 and 28 to read as follows:
- 26. "School district tax revenues" means the portion of the county's "net collections," as defined in section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law, payable to the city's dependent school district by the county pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law.
 - 27. "Cash flow borrowings" means:
- 17 (a) notes issued by the authority on behalf of the city, the city's
 18 dependent school district or any other covered organization, the
 19 proceeds of which are used to address temporary cash flow needs of the
 20 city, the city's dependent school district or the applicable covered
 21 organization; and
- 22 (b) bonds, notes and other obligations issued by the authority to 23 refund notes of the authority described in paragraph (a) of this subdi-24 vision.

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28. "Obligations of the city" means bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness issued or incurred by the city.

- § 3. Paragraph (a-1) of subdivision 2 of section 3857 of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 122 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:
- (a-1) Prior to the approval or disapproval of the financial plan of 6 the city by the authority, the authority shall request community, educa-7 tional or other entity or entities to seek public input and comment relating to the city's and/or any covered organization's financial plan. Such community, educational or other entity or entities shall report to 10 the authority on such public input and comment ten days after the city 11 has submitted the financial plan to the authority. The authority shall 12 evaluate any proposals submitted to the authority for cost savings 13 and/or service delivery enhancement in the city, and shall periodically, 14 at least twice a year, summarize in a public report the authority's 15 findings with respect to such proposals that, in the opinion of the authority, merit further consideration based on their potential impact 17 on the city's budget. The authority shall provide public notice of the 18 dates on which it plans to make such public reports.
- 20 § 4. Subdivisions 1, 3 and 4 of section 3861 of the public authorities 21 law, as added by chapter 122 of the laws of 2003, are amended to read as 22 follows:
 - 1. The city shall determine and declare whether it requests the authority to undertake a financing of costs, including costs of the city's dependent school district or any other covered organization. Any such request shall be made by and through the mayor after approval by the council. Any such financing shall be consistent with the adopted budget and financial plan of the city required under sections thirty-eight hundred fifty-six and thirty-eight hundred fifty-seven of this title, as applicable.
 - 3. Upon approval by the authority, in its discretion in accordance with the provisions of this title, of such financing request, the authority may enter into agreements with the city, for itself or on behalf of the city's dependent school district or any other covered organization, as applicable, and the city, acting by the mayor, approved by the council, may enter into agreements with the authority in accordance with the provisions of this title as to the financing of costs by the authority, the application of revenues to the authority to secure its bonds, notes or other obligations, and further assurances in respect of the authority's receipt of such revenues and the fiscal affairs of the city, including but not limited to the manner of preparation of budget reports and financial plans as provided for in sections thirtyeight hundred fifty-six and thirty-eight hundred fifty-seven of this title, as applicable. The authority's revenues shall not be deemed funds the city. Any such agreements with the city may be pledged by the authority to secure its bonds, notes or other obligations and may not be modified thereafter except as provided by the terms of the pledge.
 - 4. Such agreements with the city shall (a) describe the particular financeable costs to be financed in whole or in part by the authority, (b) describe the plan for the financing of the costs, (c) set forth the method by which and by whom and the terms and conditions upon which money provided by the authority shall be disbursed to the city for itself or on behalf of the city's dependent school district or other covered organization, as applicable, (d) where appropriate, provide for the payment of such costs by the city under such contracts as shall be awarded by the city or for the city to make a capital contribution of

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such proceeds as city funds to another entity for the payment or reimbursement of such costs, and (e) require every contract entered into by the city, or another entity receiving funds from the city, for costs to be financed in whole or in part by the authority to be subject to the provisions of the city charter and other applicable laws governing contracts of the city or such entity, as the case may be.

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§ 5. Subdivision 1 of section 3862 of the public authorities law, added by chapter 122 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows: The authority shall have the power and is hereby authorized from time to time to issue bonds, notes or other obligations in such principal amounts as it may determine to be necessary pursuant to section thirty-eight hundred sixty-one of this title to pay any financeable costs and to fund reserves to secure such bonds, notes or other obligations, including incidental expenses in connection provided, however, the aggregate principal amounts of such bonds, notes or other obligations outstanding at any one time shall not exceed one hundred seventy-five million dollars, and such bonds shall be tax exempt the maximum extent practicable, as provided by section thirty-eight hundred sixty-nine of this title. Bonds, notes or other obligations issued by the authority [**] (a) to pay reasonable costs of issuance, as determined by the authority, (b) to establish debt service reserve funds, [ex] (c) to refund or advance refund any outstanding bonds or notes of the city or the authority, or (d) as cash flow borrowings shall not count against the above limit on outstanding bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority, nor shall any accretion of principal of bonds that would constitute interest under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, count against such limit; provided, however, that the aggregate principal amount of cash flow borrowings outstanding at any one time shall not exceed one hundred forty-five million dollars.

30 § 6. Section 3862 of the public authorities law is amended by adding a 31 new subdivision 7-a to read as follows:

7-a. Whenever a series of bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority is issued pursuant to this section for purposes other than deficit financing authorized by section thirty-eight hundred fifty-seven of this title, the payment of the proceeds of such series of bonds, notes or other obligations to the city may be, at the request of the authority, evidenced by obligations of the city issued in accordance with applicable provisions of the state constitution and local finance law then in effect at the time any such obligations are issued, provided that the principal amount of the authority's bonds, notes or other obligations issued in connection with any such exchange shall not exceed the principal amount of such obligations of the city and accrued interest thereon at the stated rate to the date of such exchange, and provided further, however, that the principal payments on any such issue of city obligations shall in no event be scheduled to fall on a date later than the date on which falls a corresponding amount of scheduled principal payments on the series of bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority originally issued to provide such proceeds or issued to refund bonds, notes or other obligations issued to provide such proceeds.

§ 7. Section 3864 of the public authorities law, as added by 50 122 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

52 3864. Intercept of city tax revenues, school district tax revenues and state aid revenues. 1. The state comptroller, in accordance with section twelve hundred sixty-one of the tax law, shall pay at least monthly to the authority, (a) for the period beginning upon the effective date of this title through June thirtieth, two thousand thirty-sev-

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en, [the] city tax revenues [from the county's taxes imposed pursuant to the authority of socian treive hundred ten of the tax law. During such period and, (b) for the period beginning July first, two thousand four, and ending June thirtieth, two thousand thirty-seven, during which the county sets aside net collections for educational purposes pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law, school district tax revenues. During the period beginning on the effective date of this title through June thirtieth, two thousand thirty-seven, the county shall impose such taxes pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred ten of the tax law at a 10 rate of no less than three percent. In addition, during such [period] 11 periods, respectively, the state comptroller shall [make such payments 12 of] pay to the authority (i) city tax revenues [to the authority] pursuant to the then current agreement under subdivision (c) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law among the county and the cities in the county and (ii) school district tax revenues; provided however, in the event that such agreement among the county and such cities shall have expired or been terminated during such period, notwithstanding any other provision of general, special or local law to the contrary, 19 state comptroller shall make such payments of city tax revenues to the authority pursuant to the provisions of paragraph two of subdivision (d) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law. 22 23

- 2. Commencing on the effective date of this title, and until June thirtieth, two thousand thirty-seven, the state comptroller shall pay state aid revenues to the authority.
- 3. The city shall have no right, title, or interest in the city tax revenues or state aid revenues paid to the authority pursuant to this section; and the school district shall have no right, title, or interest in the school district tax revenues paid to the authority pursuant to this section.
- § 8. Subdivisions 1, 2 and 5 of section 3865 of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 122 of the laws of 2003, are amended to read as follows:
- 1. Subject to the provisions of this title, the directors of the authority shall receive, accept, invest, administer, expend and disburse for its corporate purposes all [money] moneys of the authority from whatever [source] source derived including (a) [city tax] revenues[*] and (b) [state aid revenues; (c) the] proceeds of bonds, notes or other obligations[*, and (d) any other payments, gifts or appropriations to the authority from any other source].
- 2. Subject to the provisions of any contract with bondholders, [(a) the money] revenues of the authority shall be paid to the authority and shall not be commingled with any other money[, and (b) all money received by the authority which, together with other money of the authority available for the superces of the authority, the payment of debt corvice and payments to reserve funds, encodes the amount required for such purposes, as determined by the authority, shall be transferred to the city as frequently a practicable].
- 5. Revenues of the authority shall be applied in the following order of priority: first to pay debt service or for set asides to pay debt service on the authority's bonds, notes, or other obligations [**] and to replenish any reserve funds securing such bonds, notes or other obligations of the authority, in accordance with the provision of any indenture or bond resolution of the authority; then to pay the authority's operating expenses not otherwise provided for; and then, subject to the authority's [agreements] agreement with the city, for itself or on

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behalf of the city's dependent school district and any other covered organization, to transfer as frequently as practicable the balance of revenues not required to meet contractual or other obligations of the authority to the city or the city's dependent school district as [frequently as practicable] provided in subdivision seven of this section.

§ 9. Section 3865 of the public authorities law is amended by adding a new subdivision 7 to read as follows:

7. On a monthly basis, the authority shall prepare and provide to the city and the city's dependent school district a detailed separate accounting of all revenues received and payments and debt service set asides made, as attributable to the city and the city's dependent school district. Such accounting shall reflect (a) the amount of state aid revenues, city tax revenues and school district tax revenues received during such month, (b) the respective portion of debt service paid or set aside during such month by the authority for its notes, bonds and other obligations attributable to the city and the city's dependent school district; (c) the respective portion of reserve fund replenishment made or set aside during such month by the authority in connection with its notes, bonds and other obligations attributable to the city and the city's dependent school district; and (d) the respective portion of administrative expenses of the authority paid or set aside during such month by the authority attributable to the city and the city's dependent school district. As soon as practicable after each monthly payment or set aside, the authority shall make respective payments of the remaining monthly balance or revenues to the city and the city's dependent school district in accordance with such separate accounting. To the extent that such respective monthly payments of the remaining balance of revenues result in an overpayment or underpayment to the city or the city's dependent school district, the authority shall in the immediately subse-31 quent month, after making debt service payments or debt service set asides, replenishing any reserve funds and paying the administrative expenses of the authority for such month, make an adjustment in favor of the city or the city's dependent school district, as the case may be, 34 before determining the remaining amount of the balance of revenues for such subsequent month and paying such remaining monthly balance of revenues to the city and the city's dependent school district. Nothing in this title shall be deemed to restrict the authority of the state comptroller and the commissioner of taxation and finance to adjust for overpayments or underpayments pursuant to the tax law.

§ 10. Section 3866 of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 41 42 122 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

§ 3866. Agreement with the state. 1. The state does hereby pledge to and agree with the holders of any issue of bonds, notes or other obligations issued by the authority pursuant to this title and secured by such a pledge that the state will not limit, alter or impair the rights hereby vested in the authority to fulfill the terms of any agreements made with such holders pursuant to this title, or in any way impair the rights and remedies of such holders or the security for such bonds, notes or other obligations [for so long as] until such bonds, notes or other obligations [are outstanding] together with the interest thereon and [watil] all costs and expenses in connection with any action or proceeding by or on behalf of such holders, are fully paid and The authority is authorized to include this pledge and agreement of the state in any agreement with the holders of such bonds, notes or other obligations. Nothing contained in this title shall be

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deemed to restrict [*he] any right of the state to amend, modify, repeal or otherwise alter: (a) section fifty-four of the state finance law or any other provision relating to state aid, or (b) statutes imposing or relating to taxes or fees, or appropriations relating thereto.

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- 2. The authority shall not include within any resolution, contract or agreement with holders of the bonds, notes or other obligations issued under this title any provision which provides that a default occurs as a result of the state exercising its right to amend, repeal, modify or otherwise alter: (a) section fifty-four of the state finance law or any other provision relating to state aid or (b) [such] statutes imposing or relating to taxes, fees, or appropriations relating thereto. Nothing in this title shall be deemed to obligate the state to make any payments or impose any taxes to satisfy the debt service obligations of the authority.
- § 11. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 3866-a to read as follows:
- 3 3866-a. Agreement with the county. 1. The county does hereby coven-17 ant and agree with the holders of any issue of bonds, notes or other 18 obligations issued by the authority pursuant to this title and secured 19 20 by such covenant and agreement that the county will not limit, alter or impair the rights hereby vested in the authority to fulfill the terms of any agreements made with such holders pursuant to this title, or in any way impair the rights and remedies of such holders or the security for 23 such bonds, notes or other obligations until such bonds, notes or other 25 obligations, together with the interest thereon and all costs and 26 expenses in connection with any action or proceeding by or on behalf of such holders are fully paid and discharged. The authority is authorized 27 include this covenant and agreement of the county in any agreement 28 with the holders of such bonds, notes or other obligations. Nothing contained in this title shall be deemed to restrict any right of the 30 county to amend, modify, repeal or otherwise alter any local laws, ordinances or resolutions imposing or relating to taxes or fees, or appropriations relating to such taxes or fees, or setting aside net collections for educational purposes pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law, so long 35 as, after giving effect to such amendment, modification or other alteration, the aggregate amount as then projected by the authority of (i) 37 sales and compensating use taxes to be imposed pursuant to the authority 38 section twelve hundred ten of the tax law and paid to the city and 39 40 (ii) all net collections for educational purposes to be set aside by the 41 county pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law and paid to the city's dependent school district during each of the authority's fiscal years following the 43 effective date of such amendment, modification or other alteration shall be not less than two hundred percent of maximum annual debt service on authority bonds then outstanding. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this section, the county further agrees that it shall impose taxes pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve 48 hundred ten of the tax law at the rate of no less than three percent. 49
 - 2. The authority shall not include within any resolution, contract or agreement with holders of the bonds, notes or other obligations issued under this title any provision which provides that a default occurs as a result of the county exercising its right to amend, repeal, modify or otherwise alter such taxes, fees or appropriations or such net collections set aside for educational purposes. Nothing in this title shall be deemed to obligate the county to make any payments or impose

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any taxes or set aside net collections for educational purposes pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law; except that the county shall impose taxes pursuant the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred ten of the tax law at the rate of no less than three percent.

§ 12. Section 3867 of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 122 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

§ 3867. Agreement with the city. 1. The city hereby covenants and agrees with the holders of bonds, notes or other obligations issued by the authority pursuant to this title, that the city will not take actions which limit, alter or [in any way] impair the rights and remedies of such holders or the security for such bonds, notes or other obligations [while] until such bonds, notes or other obligations 14 outstanding], together with the interest thereon and all costs and expenses in connection with any action or proceeding by or on behalf of such holders are fully paid and discharged. The authority is authorized 17 to include this covenant and agreement of the city in any agreement with the holders of such bonds, notes or other obligations. Nothing contained in this title shall be deemed to restrict the right of the city to amend, modify, repeal or otherwise alter any local law, ordinance or resolution imposing or relating to taxes or fees, or appropriations relating thereto, including sales and compensating use taxes imposed pursuant to the authority of section twelve hundred ten of the tax law, so long as, after giving effect to such amendment, modification or other alteration, the aggregate amount as then projected by the authority of (i) sales and compensating use taxes to be imposed pursuant to the authority of section twelve hundred ten of the tax law and paid to the 27 28 city and (ii) all net collections for educational purposes to be set 29 aside by the county pursuant to the authority of subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law and paid to the city's 31 dependent school district during each of the authority's fiscal years 32 thereafter, shall be not less than two hundred percent of maximum annual debt service on authority bonds then outstanding. The city further covenants and agrees that (i) it will not take any action, including the 35 imposition of sales and compensating use taxes preempting the county's taxes, to terminate or alter the terms of the agreement among the county, the city and the other cities in the county under subdivision (c) of section twelve hundred sixty-two of the tax law that would reduce or eliminate the amount of net collections that the county distributes or 40is to distribute to the city prior to June thirtieth, two thousand thirty-seven, without the authority's prior approval, and (ii) if the city 42 imposes sales and compensating use taxes, it shall do so pursuant to 43 subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred ten of the tax law at the 44 maximum rate authorized by such section.

2. The authority shall not include within any resolution, contract or agreement with holders of the bonds, notes or other obligations issued under this title any provision which provides that a default occurs as a οf the city exercising its right to amend, repeal, modify or otherwise alter such taxes, fees or appropriations. Nothing in this title shall be deemed to obligate the city to make any payments or impose any taxes; except that, if the city imposes sales and compensating use taxes, it shall do so pursuant to subdivision (a) of section twelve hundred ten of the tax law at the maximum rate authorized by such section.

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§ 13. Subdivisions (a) and (c) of section 1261 of the tax law, as amended by chapter 122 of the laws of 2003, are amended to read as follows:

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(a) All taxes, penalties and interest imposed by cities, counties or school districts under the authority of section twelve hundred ten, twelve hundred eleven, twelve hundred twelve or twelve hundred twelve-A of this article, which are collected by the commissioner, shall be deposited daily with such responsible banks, banking houses or trust companies, as may be designated by the state comptroller, to the credit of the comptroller, in trust for the cities, counties or school districts imposing the tax or for the Nassau county interim finance authority or the Buffalo fiscal stability authority created by the public authorities law, to the extent that net collections from taxes imposed by Nassau county are payable to the Nassau county interim finance authority or to the extent that net collections from taxes imposed by Erie county or by the city of Buffalo are payable to the Buffalo fiscal stability authority, or for any public benefit corporation to which the tax may be payable pursuant to law. Such deposits and deposits received pursuant to subdivision (b) of section twelve hundred fifty-two of this article shall be kept in trust and separate and apart from all other monies in the possession of the comptroller. The comptroller shall require adequate security from all such depositories of such revenue collected by the commissioner, including the deposits received pursuant to subdivision (b) of section twelve hundred fifty-two of this article. Any amount payable to such authorities pursuant to the public authorities law shall, at the time it is otherwise payable to Nassau county [ax], Erie county or the city of Buffalo, respectively, as specified in this section, be paid instead to such respective authority. Any amount payable to a public benefit corporation pursuant to law shall, at the time it is otherwise payable to the taxing jurisdiction as specified in this section, be paid instead to such public benefit corporation.

The comptroller, after reserving such refund fund and such costs shall, on or before the twelfth day of each month pay to the appropriate fiscal officers of the foregoing taxing jurisdictions the taxes, penalties and interest imposed by such jurisdictions under the authority of sections twelve hundred ten through twelve hundred twelve-A, collected by the commissioner pursuant to this article during the next preceding calendar month, provided, however, that the comptroller shall on or before the last day of June and December make a partial payment consisting of the collections made during and including the first twenty-five days of said months to said fiscal officers of the foregoing taxing jurisdictions. However, the taxes, penalties and interest from the additional one percent rate which the city of Yonkers is authorized to impose pursuant to section twelve hundred ten, after the comptroller has reserved such refund fund and such cost shall be paid to the special sales and compensating use tax fund for the city of Yonkers established by section ninety-two-f of the state finance law at the times set forth in the preceding sentence. However, the taxes, penalties and interest which the county of Nassau [00], the county of Erie, to the extent the county of Erie is contractually or statutorily obligated to allocate and apply or pay net collections to the city of Buffalo and to the extent that such county has set aside net collections for educational purposes attributable to the Buffalo school district, or the city of Buffalo is authorized to impose pursuant to section twelve hundred ten of this article, other than such taxes in the amounts described, respectively,

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1 in subdivisions one and two of section one thousand two hundred sixty2 two-e of this [article] part, during the period that such section

two-e of this [article] part, during the period that such section authorizes Nassau county to establish special or local assistance programs thereunder, together with any penalties and interest related thereto, and after the comptroller has reserved such refund fund and such costs, shall, commencing on the next payment date after the effective date of this sentence and of each month thereafter, until such date as the Nassau county interim finance authority shall have no obligations outstanding, or the Buffalo fiscal stability authority shall cease to exist, be paid by the comptroller to the Nassau county interim finance 10 authority to be applied by the Nassau county interim finance authority, 11 or to the Buffalo fiscal stability authority to be applied by the Buffalo fiscal stability authority, as the case may be, in the following 13 order of priority: first pursuant to the Nassau county interim finance 14 authority's contracts with bondholders or the Buffalo fiscal stability 15 authority's contracts with bondholders, respectively, then to pay the Nassau county interim finance authority's operating expenses not other-17 wise provided for or the Buffalo fiscal stability authority's operating 18 expenses not otherwise provided for, respectively, and then pursuant to the Nassau county interim finance authority's agreements with the county of Nassau, which agreements shall require the Nassau county interim finance authority to transfer such taxes, penalties and interest remain-22 ing after providing for contractual or other obligations of the Nassau county interim finance authority, and subject to any agreement between such authority and the county of Nassau, to the county of Nassau as frequently as practicable or pursuant to the Buffalo fiscal stability authority's agreements with the city of Buffalo, which agreements shall 27 require the Buffalo fiscal stability authority to transfer such taxes, penalties and interest remaining after providing for contractual or 29 other obligations of the Buffalo fiscal stability authority, and subject 30 to any agreement between such authority and the city of Buffalo, to the city of Buffalo or the city of Buffalo school district, as the case may be, as frequently as practicable. During the period that the comptroller is required to make payments to the Nassau county interim finance authority described in the previous sentence, the county of Nassau shall have no right, title or interest in or to such taxes, penalties and interest required to be paid to the Nassau county interim finance 37 authority, except as provided in such authority's agreements with the county of Nassau. During the period that the comptroller is required to make payments to the Buffalo fiscal stability authority described in the 40 second previous sentence, the city of Buffalo and such school district 41 shall have no right, title or interest in or to such taxes, penalties and interest required to be paid to the Buffalo fiscal stability authority, except as provided in such authority's agreements with the city of Buffalo. The amount so payable shall be certified to the comptroller by 45 the commissioner or the commissioner's delegate, who shall not be held liable for any inaccuracy in such certificate. Provided, however, any 47 such certification may be based on such information as may be available to the commissioner at the time such certificate must be made under this section and may be estimated on the basis of percentages or other indices calculated from distributions for prior periods. Where the amount so paid over to any city, county, school district or the special sales and compensating use tax fund for the city of Yonkers in any such distribution or to such authority is more or less than the amount then due to such city, county, school district or such fund or to such authority, the amount of the overpayment or underpayment shall be certi-

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fied to the comptroller by the commissioner or the commissioner's delegate, who shall not be held liable for any inaccuracy in such certificate. The amount of the overpayment or underpayment shall be so certified to the comptroller as soon after the discovery of the overpayment or underpayment as reasonably possible and subsequent payments and distributions by the comptroller to such city, county, school district or the special sales and compensating use tax fund for the city of Yonkers or to such authority shall be adjusted by subtracting the amount of any such overpayment from or by adding the amount of any such underpayment to such number of subsequent payments and distributions as the 10 comptroller and the commissioner shall consider reasonable in view of the amount of the overpayment or underpayment and all other facts and 12 13 circumstances.

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§ 14. The opening paragraph of paragraph a and paragraph b of section 57.00 of the local finance law, the opening paragraph of paragraph a as amended by chapter 685 of the laws of 2003 and paragraph b as amended by chapter 528 of the laws of 2002, are amended to read as follows:

Bonds shall be sold only at public sale and in accordance with the procedure set forth in this section and sections 58.00 and 59.00 of this title, except as otherwise provided in this paragraph. Bonds may be sold at private sale to the United States government or any agency or instrumentality thereof, the state of New York municipal bond bank agency, to any sinking fund or pension fund of the municipality, school district or district corporation selling such bonds, or, in the case of sales by the city of New York prior to July first, two thousand four, also to the municipal assistance corporation for the city of New York or to any other purchaser with the consent of the mayor and the comptroller of such city and approval of the state comptroller, or, in the case of sales by the county of Nassau prior to December thirty-first, two thousand seven, also to the Nassau county interim finance authority with the approval of the state comptroller, or, in the case of sales by the city of Buffalo prior to June thirtieth, two thousand thirty-seven, also to the Buffalo fiscal stability authority with the approval of the state comptroller, or, in the case of bonds or other obligations of a municipality issued for the construction of any sewage treatment works, sewage collecting system, storm water collecting system, water management facility, air pollution control facility or solid waste disposal facility, also to the New York state environmental facilities corporation, or, in the case of bonds or other obligations of a school district or a city acting on behalf of a city school district in a city having a population in excess of one hundred twenty-five thousand but less than one million inhabitants according to the latest federal census, issued to finance or refinance the cost of school district capital facilities or school district capital equipment, as defined in section sixteen hundred seventy-six of the public authorities law, also to the dormitory authority of the state of New York. Bonds of a river improvement or drainage district established by or under the supervision of the department of environmental conservation may be sold at private sale to the State of New York as investments for any funds of the state which by law may be invested, provided, however, that the rate of interest on any such bonds so sold shall be approved by the water power and control commission and the state comptroller. Bonds may also be sold at private sale as provided in section 63.00 of this title. No bonds shall be sold on option or on a deferred payment plan, except that options to purchase, effective for a period not exceeding one year, may be given:

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b. Bonds shall be sold without limitation as to rate of interest and for a sum not less than the par value of, and the accrued interest on, such obligations except as authorized by this chapter, and may also be sold by municipalities at private sale to the state of New York municipal bond bank agency and to the New York state environmental facilities corporation, and in addition by the city of New York to the municipal assistance corporation for the city of New York, and by the county of Nassau to the Nassau county interim finance authority, and by the city of Buffalo to the Buffalo fiscal stability authority, at such rate or 10 rates of interest as may be agreed upon by and between the issuing municipality and either of such agency or corporation, as the case may be. 11 When sold at public sale, the rate of interest shall be determined in the manner provided in section 59.00 of this title. However, the agency 14 or corporation prescribing the terms, form and contents of such bonds, 15 subject to the foregoing provisions of this paragraph, may fix a maximum rate of interest at which such bonds shall be sold.

§ 15. If any section, part or provision of this act shall be adjudged unconstitutional or invalid or ineffective by any court of this state, any party in interest shall have a direct appeal as of right to the court of appeals of the state of New York, and such appeal shall have preference over all other causes. Service upon the adverse party of a notice of appeal shall stay the effect of the judgment or order appealed from pending the hearing and determination of the appeal.

§ 16. Separability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part of this act be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional, invalid, or ineffective, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.

31 § 17. This act shall take effect immediately.

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